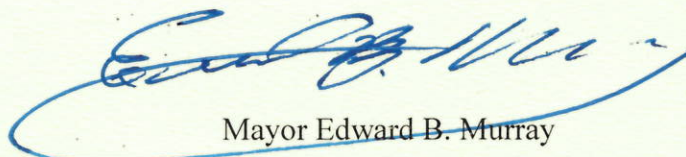


PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS,** in accordance with President Obama's proclamation that March 2016 be Women's History Month, today we mark International Women's Day by celebrating the political, economic, and social achievements of girls and women around the world; and
- WHEREAS,** throughout history, women have defied boundaries to achieve in science, technology, arts, medicine and government, in spite of the many societal restraints imposed upon them; and
- WHEREAS,** while we have many reasons to celebrate, progress towards gender equity is slowing in many places both in the United States and internationally, and it is vital we continue to pursue equality with renewed vigor; and
- WHEREAS,** in 2013, a national study showed that the Seattle metropolitan area had the largest gender pay gap in the country, with women earning on average 73 cents to every dollar earned by men, demonstrating the particularly urgent need to address gender equity within our city; and
- WHEREAS,** women of color and lesbian, bisexual, and trans women continue to face some of the greatest challenges in our society and around the globe, and we must find solutions to the particular struggles of these populations and make their voices heard; and
- WHEREAS,** International Women's Day is an opportunity for all of us to reflect on steps we can take to address gender disparities and pledge our commitment to the eradication of gender discrimination here and around the world; and
- WHEREAS,** the City of Seattle honors the generations of women who have fought and sacrificed for the rights of all people, and we look together towards a future in which all people—regardless of gender— are truly equal in society;

*NOW, THEREFORE I, EDWARD B. MURRAY, MAYOR OF SEATTLE,
DO HEREBY PROCLAIM MARCH 8, 2016 TO BE*

International Women's Day


Mayor Edward B. Murray
City of Seattle

